

TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCHES

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATED PRESS TELEGRAMS.

TAMBARORA. Wednesday.
The Golden Belt Gold Mining Company (limited) has been formed, having accepted a tender for sinking the shaft. The prospects are considered good. The company is prospecting for gold on Red Hill, on a one run of gold. The adjoining claims are in full work.

PORT MACQUARIE.

Wednesday.
Mr. Thomas Widdowson, aged 68, a farmer, residing near Clifton, left his house last night on a visit to a neighbour, and not returning, search was made this morning. He was found dead in a paddock. An inquest was held today, and a verdict of "died from natural causes" was returned.

BRISBANE.

Wednesday.
Mr. Wiseman, Police Magistrate of Rockhampton, died on Monday evening.

Mr. George Wilson, of the firm of Wilson and Co., merchants, Melbourne, died suddenly of apoplexy, at Brisbane, yesterday.

MELBOURNE.

Wednesday.
The Assembly only voted the amount of the Border duty to the expiration of the treaty. During the debate, several members advocated a duty on stock crossing the Murray.

Colonel Sankey returns to India by the outgoing mail.

The Government have decided that in future the railway gauge shall be 5 feet 6 inches.

Wells agent has offered to make Melbourne the terminus of his line of steamers from California.

Parliamentary returns show that the income from tolls throughout the colony amounted to £200,000.

There is little betting on the races. Arama is first favourite.

Sales of Portland cement have taken place at £14 to £17. Candles are irregular. News are quoted at 12 1/2.

The balance of tea & sugar is short at auction. Fine conical, 10s. 6d. Malt is brisk. Flour, 11s. 10s. to 12s. 10s.

The Parrots, with 100 tons sugar, has sailed for Sydney.

Messrs. Dalnoughy Campbell and Co. report that 1300 cattle were entered. Prices are down 10s. to 12s. 6d. per head. 20,000 sheep were offered. Quotations are 6d. per head upon all descriptions.

Messrs. Fowler, Hetherington and Co. report that 25,000 sheep and 20,000 cattle were offered. The market is quiet. Prices are rather lower. Best mutton is worth 12s. to 13s. 6d. Cattle, 10s. to 12s. 6d. 1250 cattle were offered. Quality good and prime. Prices considerably lower, except for choice pieces.

QUEENSLAND.

Wednesday.
Arrived—Tower Hill, U.S. from Newcastle.

Sailed—Agre, American ship, for Sydney.

ADELAIDE.

Wednesday.
Nothing has been done to-day in wheat or flour. It is the price of wheat for export.

PRINCE OF WALES OPERA HOUSE.—The various people who have been to the theatre for a long time have been to the theatre for a long time.

The secret, probably, may be found in the fact that it is, almost without exception, every one, who have been to the theatre for a long time.

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TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY FOR ENGLAND.

SYDNEY, SEPTEMBER 7.

P. and O. steamer Rangoon arrived August 28th, delivering July mails six days and two hours under contract time. The steamer, with the California mail, arrived four days previously, and sailed again on the 1st inst. The cargo being mail orders for three new steamers of 1500 tons for the latter line.

Parliament has been further prorogued to October 3rd. The Premier, Colonial Treasurer, and Postmaster General will in the meantime endeavour to arrange a new Border Customs treaty at an intercolonial conference, to be held in Melbourne this month.

Three ships with stores and material for the overland telegraph expedition sailed home a fortnight since. The Annual Agricultural Exhibition opened on August 21st, by Earl Belmore, was closed on the 25th. The show of cattle was extremely good.

Mr. J. Warden has been elected M.L.A. for Shalvey, and Mr. S. H. Terry for New England.

The Federal Association decided to support Sir Daniel Cooper's suggested reforms in the London wool sales.

Gold and silver mines are increasing in yield. The new deep lead on the latter is proving wonderfully rich.

A new Government loan of £274,000 has been successfully placed on the market.

Blackbird Spring meeting commenced on the 2nd. Mr. Lee's javelin was the Derby, beating the Victorian representative easily.

Mr. Anthony Trollope is in Queensland. A public dinner was recently given to him at Rockhampton.

The Marquis of Normandy reached Brisbane on the 12th inst., and was received next day.

The Queensland election jury completed have not resulted in any material accession of strength to either party.

A scientific expedition visits Cape York at the end of this year to observe the solar eclipse.

Crushing has commenced on most of the sugar plantations, some of the new crop has already reached the mills.

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THE PARROT FAMILY OF AUSTRALIA.

UNDER THE TITLE "A Monograph of the Ptilinidae."

The first number has been published of a new book on the Parrot Family of Australia, by the Rev. J. J. Halley. It contains some very fine illustrations lithographed in colours from original drawings by Mr. James W. Sayer. Birds of the genus Ptilinidae have often formed a theme for the naturalist and a study for the artist; but Australia contains a very large number of species, and there may yet be many more to be discovered.

The Preface, however, is not so explicit as one would like to see at the commencement of a work, begun in so splendid a manner as regards typography and illustration, and which before its last number is reached will be somewhat expensive. It begins like the ordinary of a speech.

The following is its first paragraph:—"The natural history of all new countries must always be deeply interesting, and it is easy to fancy the delight experienced by Sir Joseph Banks and Dr. Solander at the rich profusion of floral treasures offered for their investigation, when just a hundred years ago they landed in a garden of new forms and called it Botany Bay."

There is a little confusion here between land and water, and moreover the name was given to the Bay not by Sir Joseph Banks (as stated) but by its discoverer, Captain Cook, who in his journal says:—"The great quantity of plants which Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander collected in this place induced me to give it the name of Botany Bay."

Two or three pages of the introduction are filled with a description of the peculiarities and beauties of this new land, which the author says is "a land unexcelled in the gorgeousness of its plumage displayed, in the graceful forms and strange habits of her avifauna." In a later paragraph he remarks:—"Birds have been favourites of man in all nations and in all ages. The elegance of their form, the beauty of their plumage, their domesticity, and attachment to their kind, have made them the objects of our affection, and the subjects of our art."

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LIFEBOAT AT ELIZABETH REEF.

THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE PHOTODUPLICATION OF THE LIFEBOAT WILL BE FOUND OF INTEREST.

"Sydney, 10th May, 1871.
"Sir,—With reference to the information conveyed by your letter of the 16th March last, respecting the lifeboat at Elizabeth Reef, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, and to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the Colonial Secretary for his consideration. I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
"J. M. Banks, Esq., Sydney Exchange."

"Sydney, 25th April, 1871.
"My Lord,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt, and to thank you for the notice which your Excellency has been good enough to send me of your letter of the 21st March last, relative to the lifeboat at Elizabeth Reef. I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
"J. M. Banks, Esq., Sydney Exchange."

"Sydney, 25th April, 1871.
"My Lord,—I have the honor to acknowledge receipt, and to thank you for the notice which your Excellency has been good enough to send me of your letter of the 21st March last, relative to the lifeboat at Elizabeth Reef. I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
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